

# FINAL BILL REPORT

## SB 6467

---

---

### C 51 L 10

Synopsis as Enacted

**Brief Description:** Authorizing honorary degrees for students who were ordered into internment camps.

**Sponsors:** Senators Shin, Kastama, Delvin, Hobbs, Berkey, Rockefeller, Marr, Franklin, Kohl-Welles, Roach and Kline.

**Senate Committee on Higher Education & Workforce Development**  
**House Committee on Higher Education**

**Background:** United States Executive Order 9066 was a United States Presidential executive order signed and issued during World War II by U.S. President Franklin Roosevelt on February 19, 1942, ordering Japanese Americans to internment camps. The order authorized the Secretary of War and United States Armed Forces commanders to declare areas of the United States as military areas "from which any or all persons may be excluded," although it did not name any nationality or ethnic group. It was eventually applied to one-third of the land area of the U.S. (mostly in the West) and was used against those with "Foreign Enemy Ancestry" — Japanese, Italians, and Germans.

Approximately 120,000 ethnic Japanese people were held in internment camps for the duration of the war. Eleven thousand people of German ancestry were also interned, as were 3,000 people of Italian ancestry, along with some Jewish refugees. Some of the internees of European descent were interned only briefly, and others were held for several years beyond the end of the war.

**Summary:** Honorary degrees may be conferred, by the University of Washington, Washington State University, Central Washington University, Western Washington University, Eastern Washington University, or community and technical colleges in existence in 1942, upon persons who were students at those institutions in 1942, but did not graduate because they were ordered into an internment camp. An honorary degree may also be requested by relatives for deceased qualified persons.

**Votes on Final Passage:**

Senate	43	0
House	96	0

---

*This analysis was prepared by non-partisan legislative staff for the use of legislative members in their deliberations. This analysis is not a part of the legislation nor does it constitute a statement of legislative intent.*

**Effective:** June 10, 2010